



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.                                                               | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/614,286                                                                    | 07/12/2000  | Hiroshi Tanabe       | NECK 17.552         | 2375             |
| 26304                                                                         | 7590        | 01/05/2005           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN<br>575 MADISON AVENUE<br>NEW YORK, NY 10022-2585 |             |                      | KIELIN, ERIK J      |                  |
|                                                                               |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|                                                                               |             |                      | 2813                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**DETAILED ACTION**

The IDS of 9 April 2001, while initialed by Examiner Timothy Sutton, was not signed and dated. The IDS of 9 April 2001 has been considered and a copy attached.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erik Kielin whose telephone number is 571-272-1693. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 19:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-1702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Erik Kielin  
Primary Examiner  
January 4, 2005